

Please amend claims 1, 13-18, and 22-24 as follows.

1. (Amended Three Times) A method for accounting for network usage

comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

13. (Amended Three Times) A method for accounting for network usage

comprising:

parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;

publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;

collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;

aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;
parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;
publishing said network flow data on an information bus;
collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a
target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network
flow data; and
correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data ^{into} a
subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting
start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with
said user.

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14. (Amended Three Times) A method for aggregating/accounting start-stop event
data and network flow data within a computer network comprising:
obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;
obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event
data from a router within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, said network
flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and
correlating said accounting start-stop event and said network flow data into a call
detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data
associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

~~14~~ 15

~~15~~ (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

a means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

a means for obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

a means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

D2 ~~15~~ 16

~~16~~ (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

means for parsing accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server on a prescribed time interval;

means for publishing said accounting start-stop event data on an information bus;

means for collecting network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a network router and forwarding said network flow data to a network flow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user;

means for aggregating said network flow data according to a prescribed aggregation scheme;

means for parsing said network flow data from said network flow collector;

means for publishing said network flow data on an information bus;

means for collecting said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data at a target device that subscribes to said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data; and

means for correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data ^{-into} into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

17. (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for aggregating accounting start-stop event data and network flow data within a computer network comprising:

a means for obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

a means for obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through intermediary netflow collectors, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

a means for correlating said accounting start-stop event and said network flow data into a call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

16 18

18. (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for accounting for network usage comprising:

an accounting adapter in communication with accounting start-stop event data;

a network flow adapter in communication with network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

D2 an integrating accounting adapter in communication with said accounting adapter and said network flow adapter, wherein said integrating accounting adapter correlates said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

22. (Amended Three Times) An apparatus for aggregating accounting start-stop event data and network flow data within a computer network comprising:

an accounting adapter in communication with accounting start-stop event data;

D3 an integrating accounting adapter in communication with said accounting adapter and said network flow adapter which correlates said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by

matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

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23.

(Amended Three Times) A program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for accounting for network usage, said method comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;

obtaining network flow data independent from said accounting start-stop event data from a router within a network through an intermediary netflow collector, said network flow data including data regarding the number and type of packets utilized by a user; and

correlating said accounting start-stop event data and said network flow data into a subscriber specific call detail record unique to said user by matching said accounting start-stop event data associated with said user with said network flow data associated with said user.

24. (Amended Three Times) A program storage device readable by a machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform a method for aggregating accounting start-stop event data and network flow data in a computer network, said method comprising:

obtaining accounting start-stop event data from an accounting server;